

EMERGENCY SEWER REPAIR

January 18, 2006

A King County contractor is repairing a 30-inch sewer line in Lincoln Park after wastewater workers discovered a sewage leak Tuesday near a sinkhole that developed late last week during heavy rains. One of several storm sewers crosses the sewer line near the sinkhole.

To stop the leak in the park and enable sewer repairs, King County's Wastewater Treatment Division began an emergency bypass at its nearby Barton Street Pump Station on the north side of the Fauntleroy ferry dock. The bypass will protect public health and prevent personal injury and severe property damage. King County is temporarily discharging a mixture of stormwater and diluted sewage through an outfall 620 feet offshore.

King County is monitoring water quality at the point of discharge and along the beach. Until further notice all of the beaches are closed north of the ferry dock. A notice will be sent out once the public health department has reviewed the water quality information and deems it safe for normal use. The beaches will be closed for several days.

King County discovered the leak early Tuesday afternoon. King County posted the beach as closed, took water samples, and told health and regulatory agencies about the leak.

Normally, the Barton pump station pushes wastewater from the Fauntleroy area through a 6,250-foot pipeline to the county's Murray Avenue Pump Station at Lowman Beach Park.

During major storms, the Barton station works as an outfall for excess rain combined with diluted wastewater. Flows normally go to King County's West Point Treatment Plant, which treats up to 440 million gallons of wastewater a day during storms. King County and the City of Seattle are carrying out a multimillion-dollar program to prevent most combined sewer overflows.

King County's Wastewater Treatment Division protects public health and water quality by serving 17 cities, 17 local sewer utilities and more than 1.4 million residents in King, Snohomish and Pierce counties. Formerly called Metro, the regional clean-water agency now operated by King County has been preventing water pollution for more than 40 years.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact John Phillips at 206-263-6543 or by e-mail john.phillips@metrokc.gov



Alternative Formats Available 206-263-6543 | 711 (TTY RELAY)

The King County Wastewater Treatment Division is in your neighborhood for an emergency sewer repair.

Please see inside for detailed information.